

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-02 CPR-01 JUSE-00

FBIE-00 USIA-06 VO-03 RSC-01 /033 W

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R 311656Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6335

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY ZURICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 755

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BGEN, PFOR, GH

SUBJ: JOHN ACKAH BLAY-MIEZAH

REF: STATE 21909

1. APPRECIATE INFORMATION CONTAINED REFTTEL. WITH RESPECT TO BLAY-MIEZAH'S TRAVEL PLANS, WE ARE INFORMED THAT HIS PASSPORTS (BOTH REGULAR AND DIPLOMATIC) HAVE BEEN PICKED UP BY GOVERNMENT OF GHANA.

2. FROM SEVERAL SOURCES WE ARE TOLD NET IS CLOSING ON HIM HERE. (A) IT IS REPORTED THAT GEOFFREY'S BANK HAS ACCUSED HIM OF PILFERING THAT BANK'S LETTERHEAD PAPER AND USING IT TO HIS ADVANTAGE. GEOFFREY'S BANK ALSO DENIES IT SENT TELETYPE TO BANK OF GHANA REQUESTING DEPOSIT FACILITIES FOR BLAY-MIEZAH AND HAS ALSO INFORMED BANK OF GHANA THAT IT HOLDS FIVE BUM CHECKS DRAWN BY BLAY-MIEZAH ON US ACCOUNTS. (GHANAIAN TIMES HAD PUBLISHED PHOTOSTAT OF ALLEGED TELETYPE FROM GEOFFREY TO BANK OF GHANA.)

(B) PRESS HERE HAS COPY OF PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER ARTICLE REPORTING CONVICTION OF SMITH, AND AT LEAST ONE PAPER PLANS TO RUN PHOTOCOPY OF IT.

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(C) OWNER OF LOCAL TATA BREWERY, WHO HAD ADVANCED APPROXIMATELY

QUARTER MILLION CEDIS TO BLAY-MIEZAH, IS REPORTED TO BE DEMANDING PROMPT REPAYMENT OR HE WILL SUE.

(D) IT IS ALSO REPORTED THAT NRC NOW CONTAINS NO SUPPORT FOR BLAY-MIEZAH AND THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PREPARE LEGAL BRIEF FOR POSSIBLE CRIMINAL ACTION HERE, ALTHOUGH GROUNDS FOR SUCH ACTION SEEM AT PRESENT TO BE SOMEWHAT HAZY. PICKING UP OF PASSPORTS AND SURVEILLANCE ARE FIRST STEPS.

(E) EDITOR OF GHANAIAI TIMES IS ALSO IN DOGHOUSE FOR HIS PAPER'S SUPPORT OF BLAY-MIEZAH AND ITS ATTACK ON BANK OF GHANA FOR FAILURE TO REPLY TO GEOFFREY'S TELEX (WHICH, OF COURSE, NOW APPEARS TO BE NON-EXISTENT). AS REPORTED EARLIER, TIMES ALSO TOOK SEVERAL CRACKS AT PERSONS UNNAMED IN CASTLE WHO, PAPER ALLEGED, WERE TRYING TO UNDERCUT BLAY-MIEZAH, WHOM IT DESCRIBED AS "PATRIOT" BRINGING BADLY NEEDED FUNDS TO GHANA.

3. COMMENT: EPISODE NOW SEEMS TO BE ENTERING TRULY BYZANTINE PHASE, BUT IT MAY WELL BE THAT TIME FOR CALLING TO ACCOUNT IS HERE. SOME DIEHARDS MAY STILL USE USG INTERFERENCE TACTIC TO EXPLAIN BLAY-MIEZAH'S LACK OF MONEY, BUT IF REPORTS IN PRECEDING PARAGRAPH ARE CORRECT IT IS DOUBTFUL SUCH A PLOY WILL WASH. NONETHELESS, WE WONDER IF BRANDON KNOWS SOMETHING NO ONE ELSE SEEMS TO KNOW.  
BLACK

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICE INVESTIGATIONS, FRAUDS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ACCRA00755  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 21909  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <17 SEP 2003 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JOHN ACKAH BLAY-MIEZAH  
**TAGS:** BGEN, PFOR, GH, (BLAY-MIEZAH, JOHN ACKAH)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006